

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-17 (canceled).

Claim 18 (currently amended): A titanium alloy part having a compressive stress of approximately 270 MPa or more within a depth of about 100 μm from a surface thereof; wherein

a surface region extends from the surface to a depth of about 100 μm , and an internal region is disposed internally relative to the surface region; and

the surface region includes a modified layer containing more α phase than does the internal region, the modified layer accounting for a proportion of about 10 vol% or less of the surface region.

Claim 19 (canceled).

Claim 20 (previously presented): The titanium alloy part of claim 18, wherein the surface has a maximum surface roughness R_t of about 20 μm or less.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The titanium alloy part of ~~any of~~ claim 18, wherein the titanium alloy part contains about 50 vol% or more of β phase at room temperature.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The titanium alloy part of ~~any of~~ claim 18, wherein the titanium alloy part is a spring.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The titanium alloy part of ~~any of~~ claim 18,

wherein the titanium alloy part is a suspension spring for a vehicle.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The titanium alloy part of ~~any of~~ claim 18, wherein the titanium alloy part is one selected from the group consisting of a valve spring for an engine, a connecting rod for an engine, and a structural part for an aircraft.

Claim 25 (currently amended): An engine comprising the titanium alloy part of ~~any of~~ claim 18.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A vehicle comprising the titanium alloy part of ~~any of~~ claim 18.

Claims 27-34 (canceled).